

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05 EPA-01 /119 W  
-----058105 261957Z /72

R 261315Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2334  
USDEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC  
USDEPT OF ENERGY GERMANTOWN  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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BRUSSELS FOR USEEC, PARIS FOR SCIENCE COUNSELOR

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: TECH, IT, US, ENRG  
SUBJ: POSSIBLE DOE/ENEL COOPERATION IN BREEDER RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT

REF: (A) ROME 2715; (B) SERWER/BORIGHT TECON 4-20, (C) ROME 4960

1. SUMMARY: ENEL (ITALIAN NATIONAL ELECTRICAL UTILITY) IS  
AWAITING WORD FROM DOE ON WHETHER IT INTENDS TO PROCEED WITH AN  
AGREEMENT THAT INCLUDES A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS IN WHICH ENEL IS  
CLEARLY THE LEAD ITALIAN INSTITUTION (ULTRA HIGH VOLTAGE TRANS-  
MISSION, POWER SYSTEMS CONTROL AND STRUCTURE, GEOTHERMAL R&D,  
AND OPERATION OF FAST BREEDERS). ENEL REMAINS READY AND  
WILLING TO PROCEED WITH THIS SO-CALLED QTE UMBRELLA UNQTE  
AGREEMENT WHENEVER THE USG IS READY AND WILLING. END SUMMARY.

2. SCIATT AND DOE OFFICIAL JOHN YEVICK MET APRIL 21 WITH ING.

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GIANFRANCO CASTELLI, ENEL VICE DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND STUDIES.  
SCIATT AND YEVICK EMPHASIZED THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN IN  
THE U.S. ON THE PROPOSED DOE/ENEL QTE UMBRELLA UNQTE (REFTEL A)  
AND THAT THE MEETING WITH CASTELLI WAS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES  
ONLY.

3. CASTELLI MADE IT CLEAR THAT, ALTHOUGH THE ITALIAN LWR CON-

STRUCTION PROGRAM IS FAR BEHIND EVEN ITS MOST RECENT SCHEDULE (REF C), ENEL REGARDS THE EUROPEAN LMFBR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AS BEING AS URGENT AS ALWAYS. ENEL HAS 20-25 ENGINEERS WORKING IN LYON, AND THE UTILITY-TO-UTILITY COOPERATION WITH THE FRENCH HAS GONE VERY SMOOTHLY, IN CONTRAST TO THE COOPERATION IN RESEARCH. THE CNEN FUEL ELEMENT TEST FACILITIES (PEC) AT BRASIMONE ARE NOT RPT NOT ON THE CRITICAL PATH FOR SUPERHOENIX, AND THE FACT THAT PEC IS BEHIND SCHEDULE WILL THEREFORE NOT HAVE A MAJOR IMPACT ON THE MAIN GOAL OF THE PROGRAM.

4. ENEL, ACCORDING TO CASTELLI, IS HAPPY TO GO AHEAD WITH THE QTE UMBRELLA UNQTE WHENEVER DOE IS READY, AND HE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT ENEL WAS IN ANY CASE OWED SOME SORT OF RESPONSE FROM DOE. IN NOVEMBER 3, 1977 LETTER TO GIAMBUSSO, THAT THE MISSION HAS NOT RPT NOT SEEN, CASTELLI APPARENTLY OUTLINED THE SPECIFIC TOPICS THAT ENEL WOULD LIKE TO SEE INCLUDED IN THE BREEDER PART OF THE DOE/ENEL COOPERATION. THESE TOPICS WE REPEAT HERE SINCE WE, AND PERHAPS OTHER CONCERNED, HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY SEEN THEM:

1 - REACTOR SAFETY, INCLUDING SAFETY RELATED SYSTEMS, SHUT-DOWN SYSTEMS AND ULTIMATE HEAT SINK.

2 - CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CIRCUITS, INCLUDING STEAM GENERATORS.

3 - SPENT FUEL HANDLING SYSTEMS.

4 - CHOICE OF MATERIALS COMPATIBLE WITH HIGH NEUTRON FLUX AND HIGH TEMPERATURE SODIUM.

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5 - PLANT LAYOUT, INCLUDING SODIUM FIRE PROTECTION ARRANGEMENTS.

6- QUALITY ASSURANCE AND NON-DESTRUCTIVE TEST PROCEDURES.

7 - FUEL MANAGEMENT AND FUEL CYCLE ECONOMICS.

8 - ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS.

9 - REACTOR OPERATING EXPERIENCE.

5. CASTELLI EMPHASIZED THAT COOPERATION WITH ENEL IN THESE AREAS WOULD NECESSARILY BE FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF A BREEDER OPERATORS, NOT A MANUFACTURER OR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTION. ENEL COULD MAKE AVAILABLE ALL NON-PROPRIETARY INFORMATION THAT IT POSSESSED ON THE ABOVE SUBJECTS.

6. AS THE MEETING WAS ONLY FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES, SCIATT DECIDED NOT TO BROACH DIRECTLY THE SUBJECT OF INCLUDING ALTERNATE BREEDER FUEL CYCLES IN THE COOPERATION (REF B), SPACE RAISING THIS ISSUE MIGHT HAVE BEEN TAKEN AS A KIND OF NEGOTIATION. WE SUSPECT THE ITALIANS WOULD GO ALONG, BUT THEY WOULD ALSO EMPHASIZE THAT ENEL'S DIRECT EXPERIENCE IS LIMITED TO THE LMFBR. GARDNER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RESEARCH, SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, NUCLEAR REACTORS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** TECH, ENRG, IT, US  
**To:** STATE DOE  
**Type:** TE  
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